

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) An apparatus management method comprising:
prompting the input of category information for classifying the idle situations of idle apparatuses;
prompting the input of idleness information for specifying the idle situations of said idle apparatuses; and
storing said idleness information in a memory device in which the idleness information is related to said category information.

2. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein said idleness information is permitted to be stored in said memory device in response to the input of said category information.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein each of said idle situations is at ~~least~~ least one of the failure of, maintenance of, and remodeling of the apparatus.

4. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein the category information stored in said memory device comprises a plurality of information, the plurality of the category information including a plurality of levels of hierarchy in which the different levels of hierarchy are related to one another.

5. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein when said category information is inputted, the input of apparatus identification information for identifying an apparatus from another apparatus is prompted.

6. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein: said memory device stores a maintenance information table to manage maintenance information, a remodeling information table into which remodeling information is recorded, and a failure information table into which failure information is recorded, wherein each of the maintenance information table, the remodeling information table, and the failure information table is related to an apparatus master table which identifies an apparatus from another apparatus; and

the idleness information is classified into said maintenance information table, said remodeling information table, and said failure information table.

7. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 1, wherein: said memory device stores a failure phenomenon data table into which failure phenomena are recorded, a failure cause site data table into which failure cause sites are recorded, and a failure cause data table into which failure causes are recorded, the failure phenomenon data table, wherein each of the failure phenomenon data table, the failure cause site data table, and the failure cause data table is related to an failure information table into which failure information is recorded; and

the idleness information is classified into the failure phenomenon data table, the failure cause site data table, and the failure cause data table.

8. (Original) An apparatus management method comprising:
prompting the input of at least one of category information for classifying the idle situations of idle apparatuses and idleness information of the idle apparatuses;

extracting related information associated with inputted information from a memory device in which the category information for classifying the idle situations of the idle apparatuses and the idleness information of the idle apparatuses is stored in advance; and

displaying said related information.

9. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 8, wherein the category information stored in said memory device comprises a plurality of information, the plurality of the category information including a plurality of levels of hierarchy in which the different levels of hierarchy are related to one another.

10. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 8, further comprising:

making a statistical analysis on the basis of said related information and calculating the result of statistical analysis; and
displaying the result of said statistical analysis.

11. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 10, wherein:

the input of apparatus category information representing the categories of said apparatuses is prompted when said category information is inputted; and

a statistical analysis of at least one of the idle time and the number of idle events is calculated as the result of statistical analysis for each piece of said apparatus category information when the result of said statistical analysis is calculated.

12. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 10, wherein:

said category information includes at least one of failure phenomenon information and failure cause information; and

at least one of the failure time and the number of failures is calculated as the result of statistical analysis for each of said failure phenomenon and/or failure cause when the result of said statistical analysis is calculated.

13. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 10, wherein:

apparatus identification information for identifying an apparatus from another apparatus and stoppers in charge who stop the idle states of the apparatuses in relation to the apparatus identification information are stored in said memory device in which the apparatus identification information and the stoppers in charge are related to said idleness information; and

the relation between said stoppers in charge and other category information is calculated for each of said stoppers in charge when the result of said statistical analysis is calculated.

14. (Original) An apparatus management method comprising:

displaying an inspection item display screen including the inspection items of an apparatus to prompt the input of inspection situation values for determining the inspection situation of each inspection item, the inspection situation specified in values; storing inputted inspection situation values in a memory device; making a statistical analysis on the basis of said inspection situation values; and displaying the result of said statistical analysis.

15. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein said statistical analysis calculates the tendency of said inspection situation values to change at a plurality of inspection times for the same inspection item.

16. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 15, wherein the tendency of said inspection situation values to change is expressed by at least one of variations in said inspection situation value for each inspection time, the degree of rise and fall, and the continuity of variation.

17. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, further comprising:

determining whether the result of said statistical analysis meets a specific condition, after calculating the result of said statistical analysis, and wherein the displaying the result of said statistical analysis includes displaying a warning representation when it is determined that the result of said statistical analysis does not meet said specific condition.

18. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein said inspection items are stored in said memory device in which each of the inspection items is related to an inspector in charge in advance, and said apparatus management method further comprising:

when said inspection situation value of an apparatus stored in said memory device has not been inputted after an elapse of a specific length of time, giving a warning that prompts an inspector in charge of the inspection item to input the inspection situation value.

19. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein:

said memory device stores an apparatus master table for identifying apparatuses, a maintenance master table into which maintenance items are recorded, and a standard master table into which maintenance work standards are recorded, wherein said apparatus master table is related to said maintenance master table and said maintenance master table is related to said standard master table;

at least one of apparatus identification information for identifying apparatuses, inspection items, and the maintenance work standard is prompted when the input of inspection situation values is prompted; and

at least one of apparatus identification information for identifying apparatuses, inspection items, and the maintenance work standard is stored in said memory device when the inputted inspection situation values is stored in the memory device.

20. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein:

said memory device stores implementation record tables into which implementation records are recorded and an inspection master table into which inspection items are recorded, wherein each of said implementation record tables is related to said inspection master table for each category;

the input of said maintenance situation value is prompted together with the input of the implementation record; and

implementation records are stored by category, wherein the implementation records are related to said maintenance situation values.

21. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein:

said memory device stores an implementation record table into which implementation records are recorded, an inspection master table into which inspection items are recorded, and a work schedule table into which work schedules are recorded, wherein each of said implementation record tables is related to said inspection master table by category and said work schedule table is related to said inspection master table;

the input of said maintenance situation value is prompted together with the input of at least one of the inspection items and the work schedule; and

at least one of inputted inspection items and inputted work schedule is stored, wherein at least one of the inputted inspection items and the inputted work schedule is related to said maintenance situation values.

22. (Original) The apparatus management method according to claim 14, wherein:

said memory device stores a manufacturing section table for identifying divisions that manufacture by using apparatuses, a user table for identifying operators who use apparatuses, and a person-in-charge information table into which inspection items that operators take charge of are recorded, wherein said manufacturing section table is related to said user table and said person-in-charge information table is related to said user table;

the input of said maintenance situation value is prompted together with the input of at least one of operator identification information for identifying operators and said inspection items; and

at least one of inputted operator identification information and inputted inspection items is stored, wherein at least one of the inputted operator identification information and the inputted inspection items is related to said maintenance situation values.

23. (Original) An apparatus management system comprising:

a memory device configured to store category information for classifying the idle situations of idle apparatuses and idleness information for specifying the idle situations of the idle apparatuses, wherein the category information and the idleness information are related to one another;

a first device configured to present a plurality of said category information to prompt to select at least one of the category information; and

a second device configured to permit said idleness information to be stored into said memory device in response to the selection of said category information, wherein said idleness information stored in said memory device is related to the selected category information.

24. (Original) The apparatus management system according to claim 23, further comprising:

a third device configured to request the input of a category information or a keyword used for retrieval in response to a request for the retrieval of the idleness information; and

a fourth device configured to read out said idleness information related to said category information or said idleness information including said keyword from said memory device.

25. (Original) The apparatus management system according to claim 24, further comprising:

a fifth device configured to make a statistical analysis on the basis of said category information and calculating the result of statistical analysis, wherein said fourth device outputs the result of said statistical analysis.

26. (Original) An apparatus management system comprising:

a memory device configured to store the inspection items of an apparatus and inspection situation values which determine the inspection situations of the inspection items specified in values, wherein the inspection items and the inspection situation values are related to one another;

a first device configured to make a statistical analysis on the basis of each of said inspection situation values at a plurality of times for each of said inspection items; and

a second device configured to output the result of said statistical analysis.

27. (Original) The apparatus management system according to claim 26, wherein said inspection items are related to inspectors in charge, and said apparatus management system further comprising:

a third device configured to give a warning that prompts an inspector in charge of the inspection item to input the inspection situation value, when said inspection situation value of an apparatus stored in said memory device has not been inputted after an elapse of a specific length of time.

28. (Original) An apparatus management program product which assigns a computer system a command to manage an apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium;

a first program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to store category information for classifying the idle situations of idle apparatuses and idleness information for specifying the idle situations of the idle apparatus, wherein the category information and the idleness information are related to one another;

a second program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to present a plurality of said category information to prompt the selection of at least one of the category information;

a third program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to permit said idleness information to be stored in the memory device in response to the selection of said category information; and

a fourth program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to store said idleness information in said memory device, wherein the idleness information is related to the selected category information.

29. (Original) An apparatus management program product which assigns a computer system a command to manage an apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium;

a first program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to store the inspection items of an apparatus and inspection situation values which determine the inspection situations of the inspection items specified in values, wherein the inspection items and the inspection situation values are related to one another;

a second program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to make a statistical analysis on the basis of each of said inspection situation values at a plurality of times for each of said inspection items; and

a third program code recorded in said recording medium and assigning said computer system a command to output the result of said statistical analysis.

30. (New) An apparatus management system comprising:

a memory device configured to store category information for classifying phenomena of the idle state of idle apparatuses and idle state information including at

least an inspection data of an apparatus for specifying causes of the idle state of the idle apparatuses, wherein the category information and the idle state information are associated to one another;

a first device configured to present a plurality of said category information to prompt to select at least one of the category information; and

a second device configured to permit said idle state information to be stored into said memory device in response to the selection of said category information, wherein said idle state information stored in said memory device is associated to the selected category information, and said idle state information and said category information is associated to a keyword, respectively.

31. (New) The apparatus management system according to claim 30, further comprising:

a third device configured to request the input of a category information or said keyword used for retrieval in response to a request for the retrieval of the idle state information; and

a fourth device configured to read out said idle state information

associated to said category information or said idle state information including said keyword from said memory device.

32. (New) The apparatus management system according to claim 31, further comprising:

a fifth device configured to calculate the idle state information and to make a statistical analysis on the basis of said category information.

33. (New) An apparatus management system comprising:

a memory device configured to store values which determine inspection data, wherein the inspection data and the values are associated to one another;

a first device configured to make a statistical analysis on the basis of each of said values at a plurality of times for each of said inspection data;

a second device configured to compare a result of the statistical analysis and a standard value and to output a warning when a difference of the statistical analysis result and standard value exceeds a predetermined amount; and

a third device configured to display the warning supplied from the second device, the third device being connected to the second device by a network.

34. (New) The apparatus management system according to claim 33, wherein said inspection data are associated to inspectors in charge, and said apparatus management system further comprising:

a third device configured to give a warning that prompts an inspector in charge of the inspection data to input an input value, when said input value of an apparatus stored in said memory device has not been inputted after an elapse of a specific length of time.

35. (New) The apparatus management system according to claim 34, wherein said memory device stores a relational database, including,

- an inspection master table to which inspection data are associated,
- an apparatus master table to which the inspection master table is associated, wherein the apparatus master table identifies an apparatus,
- a standard master table to which the inspection master table is associated, wherein the standard master table stores management information,
- implementation record tables to which the inspection master table is associated, wherein the implementation record tables record inspection situation,
- a work schedule table to which the inspection master table is associated, wherein a work schedule of each of the inspection data is associated to the work schedule table,
- a person-in-charge information table to which the inspection master table is associated, wherein the person-in-charge information table stores person-in-charge information,
- a user table to which the person-in-charge information table is associated, wherein information of users who operate the apparatus are associated to the person-in-charge of the user table, and
- a manufacturing section to which the user table is associated.